

# THEME ESSAY ORGANIZER

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Essay Question:** What is a theme readers can learn from the novel The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton? How did the **plot**, **setting**, and **character** influence the development of this theme?

## INTRODUCTION

Hook (Anecdote/Quote/Question):

---

---

---

TAG (Title/ Author/ Genre): *The novel* \_\_\_ *by* \_\_\_ *is a* \_\_\_ *story about* \_\_\_.

---

---

---

Thesis (Thesis AND the three main points supporting your thesis): *The theme* \_\_\_ *is developed in this story when* #1 , #2 , *and* #3 .

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Body #1

Assertion (includes connection to thesis and first point): *The theme* \_\_\_ *is developed when* #1 .

---

---

Background Information: *What readers should know is* \_\_\_.

---

---

Citation: *In Chapter* \_\_\_ *we learn that* “ \_\_\_ ” (Hinton #).

---

---

Description (who, what, where, when, why): *What's happening in this moment is...*

---

---

---

Explanation how the evidence supports your thesis: *This illustrates the theme of* \_\_\_ *because* \_\_\_.

---

---

Transition Sentence: *Another example that supports this theme is when* \_\_\_.

---

---

**Body #2**

Assertion (includes connection to thesis and first point): *The theme \_\_\_ is developed when # 2 .*

---

---

Background Information: *What readers should know is \_\_\_ .*

---

---

Citation: *In Chapter \_\_ we learn that “ \_\_\_ ” (Hinton #).*

---

---

Description (who, what, where, when, why): *What’s happening in this moment is...*

---

---

---

Explanation how the evidence supports your thesis: *This illustrates the theme of \_\_\_ because \_\_\_ .*

---

---

Transition Sentence: *Another example that supports this theme is when \_\_\_\_ .*

---

---

**Body #3**

Assertion (includes connection to thesis and first point): *The theme \_\_\_ is developed when # 3 .*

---

---

Background Information: *What readers should know is \_\_\_ .*

---

---

Citation: *In Chapter \_\_ we learn that “ \_\_\_ ” (Hinton #).*

---

---

Description (who, what, where, when, why): *What’s happening in this moment is...*

---

---

---

Explanation how the evidence supports your thesis: *This illustrates the theme of \_\_\_ because \_\_\_ .*

---

---

Transition Sentence: *It is clear that the theme \_\_\_ is strongly developed throughout the novel.*

---

---

## CONCLUSION

Restate Thesis: *In the novel* \_\_\_\_, *the theme* \_\_\_\_ *is developed when* # 1 , # 2 , and #3 .

Extend/ Go beyond/ Larger meaning/ Connection to the world/ Why the thesis is important: *This theme can be applied to readers lives because* \_\_\_\_.

## MLA CITATION

### In-Text Citations

Kenneth Burke describes humans as “symbol-using animals” (3).

Human beings have been described as “symbol-using animals” (Burke 3).

### Citing Poetry

In the poem “Nothing Gold Can Stay” Robert Frost writes, “Then leaf subsides to leaf/And Eden sank to grief”.

### Works Cited Page

#### Citing a Book

Author’s Last Name, Authors First Name. Title of the Book. Publisher’s City, Publishing Company, Publishing Year.

Burke, Kenneth. Language as Symbolic Action: Essays on Life Literature, and Method. Berkeley: University of California, 1966.

## Theme Essay Rubric

<p><b>1. INTRODUCTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an attention grabbing thoughtful hook.</li> <li>• The title, author, and genre of the novel are clearly stated.</li> <li>• The thesis accurately explains the theme and the way plot, character, and setting has influenced the theme.</li> </ul>	<p>1   2   3   4</p>
<p><b>2. BODY PARAGRAPH 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The topic sentence states one main point and how it connects to the thesis.</li> <li>• The author provides background information for the citation.</li> <li>• The citation is appropriate, correctly written, with quotations, and page #.</li> <li>• The citation is described (who, what, when, where, why, how).</li> <li>• The author explains how and why the citation supports the thesis.</li> <li>• A transition sentence shows what the next paragraph is going to be about.</li> </ul>	<p>1   2   3   4</p>
<p><b>3. BODY PARAGRAPH 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The topic sentence states one main point and how it connects to the thesis.</li> <li>• The author provides background information for the citation.</li> <li>• The citation is appropriate, correctly written, with quotations, and page #.</li> <li>• The citation is described (who, what, when, where, why, how).</li> <li>• The author explains how and why the citation supports the thesis.</li> <li>• A transition sentence shows what the next paragraph is going to be about.</li> </ul>	<p>1   2   3   4</p>
<p><b>4. BODY PARAGRAPH 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The topic sentence states one main point and how it connects to the thesis.</li> <li>• The author provides background information for the citation.</li> <li>• The citation is appropriate, correctly written, with quotations, and page #.</li> <li>• The citation is described (who, what, when, where, why, how).</li> <li>• The author explains how and why the citation supports the thesis.</li> <li>• A transition sentence shows what the next paragraph is going to be about.</li> </ul>	<p>1   2   3   4</p>
<p><b>5. CONCLUSION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The author restates the thesis.</li> <li>• The author leaves the reader with something to think about.</li> </ul>	<p>1   2   3   4</p>
<p><b>6. GRAMMAR, USAGE, MECHANICS, AND SPELLING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar, punctuation, and spelling do not get in the way of meaning.</li> <li>• Sentences are complete and easy to understand.</li> <li>• MLA guidelines are followed throughout the paper.</li> <li>• Words are varied and thoughtfully chosen.</li> </ul>	<p>1   2   3   4</p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>  <p>Points: ____/24 Grade: ____</p> <p>Point Breakdown:    <b>A:</b> 24 -22      <b>B:</b> 21-20      <b>C:</b>19 -17      <b>D:</b>16-15      <b>F:</b>14-0</p>	